

THE MISSION OF M. DELCASSE

Why the French Minister Goes to St. Petersburg.

A NEW WORLD POWER

The Presence of the French Minister in Russia Attributed to the Unsettled Condition of European Politics—Repeated Signs of Friction Between Germany and United States—Richard Croker Sails for Home.

(Copyright by the Associated Press.) London, August 5.—Whatever fanciful reasons are offered for the visit of the French minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcasse, to St. Petersburg, it is safe to assume it has reference to the present unsettled condition of European politics.

The appearance of the United States as a world power is primarily responsible for this disturbance and there are repeated signs of latent friction between Germany and the United States, the latest being Admiral Dewey's alleged warlike statements, which give European statesmen cause for uneasiness and are regarded as the motive for Emperor William's overtures for a rapprochement with France. France is still smarting under the humiliation of the Fashoda affair and is inclined to meet Emperor William's overtures with a refusal. The primary object of M. Delcasse, therefore, is to get public evidence that the alliance holds good by persuading the Czar to visit the Paris exhibition of 1900, and also by personal contact with the Russian court and attempt to ascertain to what extent the alliance may be relied on.

CROKER SAILS FOR HOME. London, Aug. 5.—Richard Croker, before leaving London for Southampton, whence he sailed for New York on board the American line steamer St. Paul, said to a representative of the Associated Press, who asked him if there was any truth in the report that he had purchased the Lakes of Killarney:

"I never heard of or knew anything about any sale of the lakes of Killarney or Muskerry until I read about it in the English newspapers."

WILL COME BACK.

"I expect to come back to London next spring for the usual three months' racing. The New York newspapers will allow me any peace in my own country, and I am compelled to come over here for it. In England the newspapers do not meddle with a man's private affairs, while in America reporters are watching my house and following me about the streets in cabs and street cars."

"Why, I can't even go out of town without having a lot of reporters on the train with me, who are going to print the names of every body I speak to and publish everything I do."

DRIVEN FROM AMERICA.

"I was driven away from America to find my pleasures and then accused of being un-American because I come over here for a little rest."

"I am perfectly satisfied with my treatment here."

DELCASSE IN RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, August 5.—M. Delcasse's visit to the great satisfaction in Russian diplomatic circles, as it has long been hoped he would attest the solidity of the Franco-Russian alliance by a visit here. He had a long interview to-day with the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Muraviev, with whom he is in company with a number of Russian Ministers.

The French Foreign Minister will visit the Czar at Peterhof to-morrow.

OTIS SEVERELY CRITICISED.

Said to Waste Too Much Valuable Time on Petty Things.

James Creelman, in a cablegram to the New York Journal from London, has this to say about General Otis and his methods: "After having spent several months with our troops in the Philippines I am firmly convinced that unless General Otis is removed and a competent General put in command the whole campaign will be a failure. I have been in the Philippines, and I can say honestly, without the slightest prejudice, that General Otis is much more responsible for the disastrous, humiliating condition of affairs in the East than General Shafter was for the calamities in Cuba."

General Otis was furnished for the war department with a perfectly equipped, well-fitted army, and he had months of dry weather in which to fight against an imperfectly organized enemy. "To be perfectly plain, General Otis is a very old man, unaccustomed to anything but regimental command and saturated with the ideas and methods of a routine clerk. He is a man who has grown old serving in a regiment, and his experience and abilities do not go outside of regimental lines. Now that he finds himself in command of a large army entrusted with the Government of a great archipelago, it is no wonder that things are as they are."

"It was because of this knowledge that Admiral Dewey, without consulting General Otis, privately cabled to President McKinley, asking him to send to Manila a small commission of men skilled in statesmanship and diplomacy. It was apparent to him, as to others, that General Otis was not competent to deal with the far-reaching, intricate problems involved in a war with the natives."

"Again and again Admiral Dewey expressed at the beginning of the present hostilities his dissatisfaction over the failure to make any advance against the enemy. When finally, in despair of any action by Otis, Dewey began to take possession of other islands, Otis wrote the Admiral a bitter letter complaining that the navy was forcing the campaign too fast."

"I was there then and I remember how generals and other officers on the firing line bitterly denounced General Otis in private for immersing himself in petty details and customhouse cases, while our firing line was stretched 22 measured miles around Manila, lying idly before an enemy growing stronger

LEVY BROS.

A Sale of Phenomenal Values

Blankets, Table Damask, Towels, Bed Furnishings, Dress Goods, Silks and Domestic Dry Goods at prices never touched by or any other house in Norfolk. All goods less than wholesale cost. This sale begins Monday at 8 a. m. Come early. Those who delayed last week know the force of this advice. This is intended as the season's Top Notch Sale. Come prepared for Bargain and come early. 10-4 Blankets, 39c. Bleached 39c. Table Cloth, 19c. Those large 20c. Huck Towels, 11c. Damask colored border, knotted fringe Towels, 12½c. Val. Laces, 9c. dozen, and hundreds of others.

8½c.-SILKS AT FORCED SALE-13½c.

This firm realizes the fact that to induce liberal buying in August great inducements must be offered. This only makes such ridiculously low prices possible. A great many of these Bargains are suitable for fall wear.

8½c. 1 piece Glace Twill, 8 to 9 yards, 1 piece Monday, was 25c.
25c. 2 pieces Moire Antique Velour, 12 to 14 yards, 1 piece Monday, was 35c.
25c. 3 pieces Twilled Satin, for lining, a fine 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 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